Mr. K. Kunjan Pillai : The 100 people, as I said before, will not be assembling there at the same time. People will be coming and going.

Mr. V. Sankara Menon (*Trivandrum and Nedumangad* cum *Chirayinkil*) : May I know whether the people themselves are not accommodating ?

Mr. K. Kunjan Pillai : Yes, the people accommodate themselves and sufficient space is provided for them.

Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar : Will the Government be pleased to make enquiries with regard to the accommodation in the room ?

Mr. K. Kunjan Pillai : Yes, Government will make the necessary enquiries.

Potato and wheat cultivation in Peermade and Devicolam.

10. * **Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar :** Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether potato and wheat are being cultivated in any of the pakuthies in the Devicolam and Peermade taluks :

(*b*) if the answer to part (*a*) is in the affirmative, the places where such cultivation is being conducted ;

(*c*) the total extent of the land under each of such cultivation ; and

(*d*) the average yield per acre from each of such crops ?

Mr. C. Kumara Das (*Secretary to Government*) : (*a*) Only in the Devicolam taluk.

(*b*) In Vattavada, Kanthalloor and Kottacompur pakuthies.

(*c*) About 60 acres under potatoes and 65 acres under wheat.

(*d*) (1) 3 to 5 tons of potatoes per acre.

(2) 800 to 1000 lbs. of wheat per acre.

Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar : With reference to answer to part (*c*) may I know how long is it since the cultivation has been conducted in those places ?

Mr. C. Kumara Das : It may be about 25 to 30 years.

Mr. Kochikal P. Balakrishnan Tampi (*Karunagapalli, Kartikapalli and Ambalapuzha* cum *Shertala*) : May I know whether the acreage under potato cultivation cannot be extended ?

Mr. C. Kumara Das : Yes, there is a possibility.

President : I feel very strongly that the acreage should be extended. Some three years ago, a year after the outbreak of the war, I met the planters of that locality and made a personal appeal to them to extend the area both under wheat and potato cultivation and I pointed out to them what has proved to be prophetic, that the price of potato would be much higher than what it was then, and that it would be advantageous to extend the area under cultivation of those products. I hope that at least now something will be done in that direction.

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